

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 EUR-25 NIC-01 OMB-01

OPR-02 DRC-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 AID-20 PC-04 /170 W

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O P 151627Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5607

INFO DOD/DIA PRIORITY

USCINCSO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 4255

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PINS

SUBJ: WRAPUP 12:00 SEPT 15

1. THRUST OF GOVT'S MESSAGE IS THAT SITUATION NORMALIZING
THROUGHOUT COUNTRY AND THAT SERVICES AND GOODS SUCH AS FUEL OIL
AND BREAD WILL BE BACK TO SUFFICIENT LEVELS WITH A FEW DAYS.
FIGHTING, NEVERTHELESS, CONTINUES IN SANTIAGO - ALTHOUGH GOVT
APPEARS TO BE MAKING SLOW PROGRESS IN REDUCING SNIPER ACTIVITY
AND ELIMINATING POCKETS OF ORGANIZED RESISTANCE. POLICE
CONDUCTING BUILDING BY BUILDING SEARCH OF DOWNTOWN AREA.
MILITARY CONTENTS THAT SITUATION IN PROVINCES UNDER CONTROL.

2. WHILE CONTINUING TO PROMISE WORKERS THAT GAINS ACHIEVED
UNDER ALLENDE WILL NOT BE WITHDRAWN, GOVT PROPAGANDA TAKING
AN EXTREMELY HARD ANTI-MARXIST LINE WITH REPETITIVE MENTION OF
INTERNATIONAL MARXIST CONSPIRACY THEMES.

3. MINEC, ARMY GEN GONZALES, HAS ABOLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPLY
AND PRICE BOARDS (JABS) KEYSTONE OF ALLENDE GOVT'S FOOD
DISTRIBUTION TO LOWER CLASS NEIGHBORHOODS. NATIONAL SECRETARIAT
OF DISTRIBUTION HEADED BY AIR FORCE GEN BACHELET HAS SIMILARLY
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BEEN DISSOLVED AND REPLACED WITH NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF

COORDINATION AND DISTRIBUTION UNDER CONTROL OF A COL. DEYSHLER WHICH WILL REORGANIZE DISTRIBUTION IN CONCERT WITH MERCHANT GUILDS. GOVT HAS HOWEVER WARNED AGAINST PRICE SPECULATION WHICH WILL BE HEAVILY PUNISHED.

4. SEPT 15 EL MERCURIO CARRIES STORY DATED VALPARAISO THAT OBSERVERS IN PORT HAVE SEEN NUMEROUS UP PRISONERS PLACED ABOARD MERCHANT AND NAVY SHIPS. ARTICLE SPECULATES THAT PRISONERS' DESTINATION IS JUAN FERNANDES' ISLANDS. VENERABLE PDC LEADER BERNARDO LEIGHTON PRESENTED PETITION TO SANTIAGO APPEALS COURT FOR PROTECTION OF LEGAL RIGHTS (RECURSO DE AMPARO) OF SEVERAL PRISONERS INCLUDING BRIONES, ALMEYDA, TAPIA AND OSCAR WAISS. COURT REJECTED LEIGHTON'S PETITION ON BASIS THAT WIDE-RANGING ARREST POWERS GRANTED TO MILITARY IN STATE OF SIEGE SITUATION.

5. MILITARY GOVT CONTINUES TO MAKE NEW APPOINTMENTS. ARMY GENERAL EDUARDO CANO QUIJADA NAMED TO HEAD CENTRAL BANK. HIS FIRST ACT WAS TO ANNOUNCE REINSTATEMENT OF 28 EMPLOYEES FIRED DURING OCTOBER 1972 SHUTDOWN. CANO ALSO STATED THAT BANKS EMPLOYMENT TOTAL HAD MORE THAN DOUBLED UNDER UP AND PROMISED THOROUGH HOUSECLEANING. SIMILAR CLEANUP SENTIMENTS HAVE BEEN PUT IN ACTION BY NEWLY APPOINTED INVESTIGATIONS POLICE HEAD ARMY GEN ERNESTO BAEZA, WHO CURRENTLY WEEDING THAT ORGANIZATION.

6. BOTH SEPT 15 TERCERA AND EL MERCURIO HAVE HEAVY COVERAGE OF LARGE QUANTITIES OF ARMS FOUND IN ALLENDE'S TOMAS MORO RESIDENCE AND STATEMENTS MADE IN YESTERDAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE BY MININT BONILLA REGARDING MILITARY'S DECISION TO ACT AGAINST GOVT BEFORE MILITARY ITSELF ALONG WITH CONSTITUTION WERE TOTALLY DESTROYED. BONILLA ALSO PRESENTED EVIDENCE AT CONFERENCE THAT FAMED 13 CUBAN PARCELS WHICH WERE CENTER OF LONGRUNNING CONTROVERSY ACTUALLY CONTAINED ARMS AND NOT WORKS OF ART AS ALLENDE HAD CLAIMED. BONILLA ALSO REFERRED TO LARGE NUMBER OF FOREIGN EXTREMISTS IN NATION. THIS THEME ALSO BEING PLAYED HARD ON RADIO-TV PROPAGANDA.
DAVIS

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